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DRAM 512.01: Problems in Movement/Dance - Graduate Movement

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Spring 2007 Graduate Movement (Problems in Movement/Dance): Drama 512
Professor Noah Tuleja
McGill 212C noah.tuleja@umontana.edu 243-2018
Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30-11:00 or by appointment

When and Where:

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays: 12:40-2:00

Schreiber 123

Texts & Materials

Haroun and the Sea of Stories by Salman Rushdie

Class Handouts

Journal

Appropriate Movement Attire

Course Aim:

The purpose of this course is to help the actor discover a full awareness of their body so it can be used as an effective tool in creating and performing work for the stage.

Course Outcomes:

Through the use of a workshop setting the actor will:

- Help create a professional and generous place in which to work.
- Demonstrate the ability to be a productive member of an ensemble.
- Discover individual habits, in order to isolate and address them, so a neutral physical canvas can be cultivated.
- Instill a sense of discipline, precision and detail in all creative work.
- Strengthen the body's core and vocal expressiveness.

Content:

This course will focus on developing the actor's body in the areas of balance, strength flexibility and agility. At the same time the course will develop the actor's sense of space, time, tempo and rhythm using ensemble and collaborative work.

Through a series of ensemble and individual exercises, drawn from the work of Tadashi Suzuki, Yoshi Oida Jerzy Grotowski and my own research, each actor will prepare and perform one small group generated piece and one full company piece generated from Rushdie's Haroun and the Sea of Stories. Each student will also be expected to present one extensive oral presentation on a movement technique of his or her choice.

Expectations/Requirements:

Active Participation - each actor is expected to commit to all exercises and assignments with interest and concentrated effort.

Respect - all actors must respect themselves, their classmates, their classroom environment and the acting process.

Supportive environment - all actors in this class must strive to create an open and safe atmosphere that allows each student to risk without fear of embarrassment, remorse or caution.

Attendance - actors must attend all classes and be on time, unless otherwise noted.

MISSING CLASS WILL AFFECT YOUR GRADE. Two tardies equal one absence and more than two absences will lower your grade by one full letter. If a student does miss class it is their responsibility to find out what was covered from a fellow classmate. All students must attend ALL departmental productions.

Each student will be responsible for consistent in-depth, reflective self-analysis in the form of a journal - which must be brought on the second day of the semester.

Evaluation:

The final semester grade will be a reflection of the actor's effort, progress and development of skills covered. There will be regular evaluation of the actor's work including, but not limited to:

- Participation and attendance
- Effort
- Self-analysis
- Clear understanding of principles and practices taught
- Clarity and strength of performance choices

Projects

Oral Presentation	10% of grade
Group Generated Piece	15% of grade
Text Generated Piece	25% of grade

Policy/Procedure:

- This is a highly physical class and though all the necessary precautions have been taken to prevent injuries, they can still occur. It is university policy and the responsibility of every student to have full medical coverage while attending classes at the University of Montana.
- No eating or gum chewing. You are encouraged to bring a bottle of water, but other beverages are not acceptable.
- No weapons, drugs, or alcohol are allowed on campus or in the classroom. Failure to heed this rule will result in expulsion from the class and possibly the university.
- Actors must wear appropriate movement attire to class, unless otherwise instructed.
- Actors must regularly check the departmental callboard located in the PARTV building between the scene shop and the offices.

**If you have any specific learning needs please make an appointment to meet with me.*

Academic Misconduct and the Student Conduct Code

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at www.umd.edu/SA/VPSA/Index.cfm/page/1321.

All Drama/Dance students must have an in-depth knowledge of the practices and procedures outlined in the Department of Drama/Dance Handbook. The Handbook is available online at <http://www.sfa.ymt.edu/drama/index.html>.

The actor's mind is the rider, the body is the horse.

-Yoshi Oida